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November 1, 2004

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## Via ECFS

Ms. Marlene Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 Twelfth Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: Notice of Inquiry, MB Docket 04-233

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Nexstar Broadcasting, Inc., the licensee of 26 television broadcast stations, submitted herewith are statements regarding local programming and community activities from four stations and one station which Nexstar is programming under a time brokerage agreement pending that station's acquisition. Statements are attached for:

WFFT-TV, Fort Wayne, Indiana; KTAL-TV, Texarkana, Texas; KTAB-TV, Abilene, Texas; WJET-TV, Erie, Pennsylvania; and KLST(TV), San Angelo, Texas.

Very truly yours,

Howard M. Liberman

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#### WFFT-TV, FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

Below is a sample of the WFFT-TV's local programming and community activities:

#### **Public Service Announcements**

WFFT's community service starts with keeping our citizens aware of local and national issues by airing Public Service Announcements. Each quarter, we solicit the advice of local community leaders, such as the Mayor, about which issues most affect our viewing area. We then prioritize our PSA's based on their recommendations. We air approximately 96 hours per calendar year in public service announcements alone.

#### **School Delays & Closings**

WFFT runs crawls at the bottom of our screen when Northeastern Indiana has inclement weather and there are school delays and or closings, keeping local parents updated about the status of their child's school.

#### **Amber Alert & EAS**

WFFT participates in the Emergency Alert System as a monitoring station as well as the Amber Alert System. Our EAS equipment is programmed to automatically interrupt regular programming when the National Weather Service issues a severe weather warning.

#### **Weather Warnings**

Although WFFT does not have a news department and, therefore, no weather department, station personnel closely monitor weather warnings from the National Weather Service. In the event there is a weather warning in our viewing area we run crawls and graphics over programming letting our viewers know about the weather and which areas it is affecting and could affect.

#### Connecting With Kids

For 2004 WFFT has teamed up with a local behavioral health clinic and initiated a program called, "Connecting with Kids". The focus of which is to explore the issues facing our children today and how parents and communities can work together to foster healthy relationships through increased communication. Some of the issues this program has, and is committed to addressing include: peer pressure, nutrition, drug & alcohol abuse, violence, racism and dating to name a few. We have earmarked a healthy amount of our on-air inventory to this effort, as well as an Internet component for this campaign on our website. In a years time we will have dedicated approximately 1,500 commercial airings to Connecting with Kids.

#### **Fun Facts**

Each year WFFT teams up with the Ft. Wayne Children's Zoo to locally produce and air educational spots about some of the animals at the zoo. We dedicate approximately 150 announcements to Fun Facts over a 5-month period. In addition, we also hold monthly coloring contest in conjunction with the program and provide free zoo passes to monthly coloring contest winners. Fun Facts is also featured on our website.

#### Welcome To Ft. Wayne Video

Another WFFT community service project that is currently underway is our "Welcome to Ft. Wayne Video". The video will highlight our local community and the many things to enjoy in our area. There will be sections on local dining, local sports, local landmarks and so on. The video is currently in production, and is slated to be ready in March of 2005. Once completed WFFT will

provide copies of the video free of charge to local libraries, video rental stores and our local Chamber of Commerce.

#### **On-Line Community Calendar**

WFFT recently launched an interactive on-line community calendar. It's on our website at www.wfft.com. It is completely free of charge for local citizens and organizations to use to keep the community informed about the many events that take place in our area.

#### **Station Tours**

WFFT frequently provides tours of the station to local groups such as the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

#### **Donated Items**

WFFT frequently donates station items such as T-shirts, DVDs and baseball caps to local organizations such as schools, emergency service organizations and local charities. These items are usually used at silent auctions and other fundraising events.

#### Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundations Walk For A Cure

Recently WFFT participated in the JDRF's walk to cure diabetes. We dedicated approximately 50 commercial announcements to promoting the event and also put together our own WFFT team to walk and take part in the event. WFFT also handed out coloring books to children at the event.

#### Rockin' Idol

In 2004 WFFT teamed up with Fort Wayne Radiology to hold our second annual "Rockin' Idol Contest" in conjunction with the local "Rockin' Doc's Music Festival". The festival is an annual fundraiser for Mathew 25, which is a charity that provides medical treatment to local cancer victims who would ordinarily not be able to afford the treatment on their own.

#### Junior Achievement Media Race

Each year the Junior Achievement organization holds a go-kart race featuring local media representatives as part of an annual fundraiser. In 2004 WFFT participated by running PSA's promoting the event and also having station personnel at the event.

#### **Adopt A Family For Christmas**

Each year the employees of WFFT take part in a local program called "Adopt a Family for Christmas." The goal of this program is to find local families who can't afford Christmas gifts on their own and have groups and organizations donate gifts to the family. Last year our family consisted of a mother, a father and 2 children, one girl and one boy. The staff of FOX 55 pulled together and donated a van full of gifts to the family. This is a program that WFFT participates in every year.

#### **Quarterly Employee Public Service Report**

In an effort to keep our employees aware of the importance of community service we ask each employee to complete a quarterly report on what they did as an individual to support local programs and charities. The information found in these reports is very encouraging. The time and money that our employees put into local community projects is something that we're very proud of as a station. We would like to think that our employees see how important supporting the

community is as a television station and that commitment trickles down to our staff on an individual basis.

WFFT is deeply committed to our local community. Our dedication to the area we live and work in is consistent and constant. We are extremely proud of our track record relating to community service and look forward to finding and participating in even more projects and programs to better serve our community.



EASTER SEAL SPECIAL - 2-hour "telethon" format live from the Temple Memorial Rehabilitation Center, the Easter Seal facility for the Texarkana area. The station is instrumental in raising more than \$100,000 annually for Easter Seals.

SUSAN KOMEN RACE FOR THE CURE - KTAL served as media sponsor for both Texarkana and Shreveport and on-air personalities participated in the actual walk.

RED RIVER REVEL - annual celebration of the arts event that brings thousands of tourism dollars to the city. Live telecasts daily during 5:00 and 6:00 pm newscasts.

FAMILY FOCUS: SENIORS - weekly stories targeting the needs of the elderly air in the 6:00 and 10:00 pm newscasts and culminate in a 30-minute monthly special which airs as a weekend news lead-out.

FAMILY FOCUS - features air in the 6:00 pm news daily. Subjects included are education, health, finances and faith.

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD is a feature of the 5:00 pm Monday through Friday newscasts during which Todd Warren is on location at the site of some charitable event or at a location to interview guests about upcoming events, issues, or circumstance.

PROVIDENCE HOUSE SERIES - a NewsChannel 6 reporter followed a family through the actual sixweek program with weekly reports at 6:00 and 10:00 and then did periodic updates on the progress of that family. Providence House is a facility for homeless women and children who, upon completion of the program, are rehabilitated to the extent they can re-re-enter the work place and make a home for themselves

NEWS INTERVIEWS - through community ascertainment efforts, a Program Coordinator forwards lists of concerns, issues, problems that exist in the service area to the News Director. The station seeks out guests who can speak on these various subjects, who brought to the studio for in-depth interviews during Newschannel 6 Today (Monday through Friday, 5:00 -7:00a.m.)

JUNIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTION - the station produced and aired (live) the Grand Champion Junior Livestock Show/Auction from the Louisiana State Fair on October 27, '04. While this is an annual focus of the State Fair, this was the first time it had been telecast. This event benefits young people from 4-H chapters throughout Louisiana.

PUBLIC SERVICE CAMPAIGNS - i.e No Phone in School Zone, Don't Drink and Drive, The More You Know, and Weatherwise (seasonal weather tips featuring the station's Chief Meteorologist). These spots are on-going and are scheduled in every day-part. We recently received a commendation from the Advertising Council for our continuing support of their public service campaigns.

OUR TOWN - KTAL produces one 30-minute "Welcome" video for the cities of Shreveport and Texarkana which is designed to educate newcomers to the attributes of the cities. These are aired and then made available on DVD for wide-spread distribution through the Chamber of Commerce in each city. These are updated, re-aired and re-distributed annually.

OTHER COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS - In February, we focused on Black History Month, producing features on area blacks who had made a significant contribution to the area through business education, health, etc. Throughout the month of March, we saluted Women Who Made a Difference with locally-produced vignettes on local women who had made a positive difference in the Shreveport-Texarkana area. Both these projects culminated in 30-minute programs which aired on the weekend.

KIDCAST - Area children are urged to draw pictures depicting a weather condition and mail them to the station. Each morning, during NewsChannel 6 Today, a winning picture is selected and shown on the air and the "artist" is awarded a prize. On Friday morning, one of these children is invited into the studio to be forecaster for a day.

GREAT PUMPKIN CANDY GIVEAWAY - As an annual effort to keep children safe at Halloween time, KTAL hosts events for kids in Shreveport, Bossier City, and Texarkana. This year, the Louisiana State Fair was the scene in Shreveport; First Baptist Church in Bossier City; and the Texarkana Mall was the location for kids in Texarkana, Texas-Arkansas.



## **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECTS**

These are simply a sampling of KTAB's Community involvement projects:

- · Currently building a Community Calendar on website that viewers can update themselves to advertise their events.
- KTAB has held a telethon for the Ben Richey Boys Ranch, a local home for boys. The telethon raises several thousand dollars each year to aid the ranch.
- Each year KTAB has a May We Help? Sweepstakes, where winners each receive a month's rent or mortgage paid off by a local bank.
- KTAB presents the Fellowship of Christian athletes football game each year, carrying the game live and highlighting a different player each week.
- KTAB also televises the entire local fireworks display live each 4th, bringing the show to those who are not able to watch it in person.
- Each Wednesday night a KTAB reporter presents "Beyond the Book," a segment highlighting innovative teaching techniques used in Big Country schools.
- KTAB also features a sports segment called "Catch of the Day," which highlights pictures sent in by viewers of their biggest fish (or even the smallest!)
- FoodTAB brings the viewers an inside look at local restaurants, as our news director brings the food reports, acquired from the local food inspector, each week.
- Each week KTAB in conjunction with the local police department, airs a Crimestoppers Reports, letting viewers know about recent burglaries, robberies including suspect descriptions.
- · Nuestra Gente Our People. A weekly news segment on KTAB by reporter Victor Sotelo that focuses on the needs and issues affecting the local and area Hispanic community.
- KTAB Daybreak Our morning news program features daily interview segments with local representatives of local and area non-profits about special community projects and community events. Interview subjects range from Make a Difference today to what's going on at the zoo, local and area museums, to Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boys and Girls Clubs, Boy and Girl scout organizations, etc.
- KTAB Weather KTAB is the leading weather station in the big country, and we make sure that everyone, not just the citizens in Abilene, but all of our surrounding communities have focused weather predictions. When severe weather that could bring harm to anyone in the Big Country strikes, we don't hesitate to go on the air and warn the rural communities that watch our station.
- Santa's Helpers KTAB has a toy drive every year to make sure that local charities that aren't covered by other toy programs receive gifts. This drive helps charities like the Noah Project, Ben Richey Boys Ranch, and other local children's programs.
- Local Government KTAB provides coverage of bi-weekly City Council meetings and focuses on community issues. We also cover the Taylor County Commission.

- KTAB ("KFX") Football Extreme is a show dedicated to high school football. The program is also used as an umbrella to cover other local sporting events. KFX follows high school and college teams from pre-season practice all the way to state playoffs. KFX also features three coaches shows from local high schools, where each week different players are interviewed by a KTAB sports anchor.
- The KTAB weather department has a KidCast program, where a child gives the weather forecast every Friday morning. KTAB Meteorologists also visit local schools regularly to teach weather safety.
- KTAB broadcasts the West Texas Rehabilitation Telethon each year in January. KTAB also sends 10 to 12 volunteers to the telethon each year to help with the production.



October 27, 2004

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communication Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S. W. Washington, D. C. 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch,

Please accept the following comments relating to docket number MB Docket No. 04-233.

My name is Louis A. Gattozzi. I serve as the Vice President and General Manager of WJET-TV, the ABC affiliate in Erie, Pennsylvania, which is owned and operated by Nexstar Broadcasting. I have served in this capacity since January of 1998 when Nexstar Broadcasting assumed ownership of WJET-TV. The purpose of this letter is to describe to you the commitment we have to viewers of the Erie market and the services we provide to our viewers on an ongoing basis.

JET-TV, as we like to call ourselves, has been the market leader in local news for many years and our news efforts are the central focus of my staff and management team. Our schedule of local new programming is as follows:

### Monday-Friday

- > 5:30-7:00 a. m. we produce "Good Morning Erie." This ninety-minute block of news and weather information was added to the JET-TV schedule in February of 1998 when Nexstar Broadcasting acquired the station.
- > 12:00-12:30 p.m., Action News 24 at Noon.
- > 5:00-5:30 p. m., Action News 24
- > 5:30-6:00 p. m., Action News 24; this half-hour of local news programming was added to our schedule in fall of 2003.
- > 6:00-6:30 p. m., Action News 24
- > 11-11:35 p. m., Action News 24

## Saturday/Sunday

- > 6:00-6:30 p. m., Action News 24
- > 11:00-11:35 p. m., Action News 24

In total JET-TV provides the Erie community of four hours of daily live, local news programming Monday through Friday and one hour on both Saturday and Sunday. As part and parcel of our 5:30-6:00 p. m. newscast we include a "newsmaker" interview that affords members of our community to discuss

issues that are importance to them. Topics range from local politics, health issues, the arts, non-profit organizations to pet adoption. These segments normally range for five to seven minutes in length.

In addition to the regularly scheduled newscast JET-TV is dedicated to providing live coverage of significant breaking news events "24-7." We have invested in two live remote vehicles to ensure coverage of significant new stories. Here are some examples of live coverage that Action News 24 has provided to the Erie Market.

- Live ongoing coverage of major traffic accidents affecting the Erie market. Interstate 90 runs directly through our coverage area. Any disruption of normal traffic patterns has an immediate impact on our viewers. JET-TV has provided coverage of a major tanker truck fire that closed I-90 for several days during which live updates were provided. We have also provided live coverage of an incident that resulted in hazardous materials and fumes being vented into the air. On other occasions major accidents that have closed down the interstate have been covered live to keep the viewing public informed of alternate traffic routes.
- Most recently JET-TV and Action News 24 have provided live coverage of both the Republican and Democrat candidates for president and vice-president. We have provided live, "wall-to-wall" coverage of President George W. Bush, Senator John F. Kerry, Vice-President Dick Cheney and Senator John Edwards all of whom made campaign stops in the Erie market this year.

Weather coverage is a very important part of the service we provide our local audience, so important that in 1998 JET-TV made a major capital investment in a local weather radar system. Because the Erie community had not been, and is still not, served by a local National Weather Service radar, JET-TV invested \$780,000 in a state of the art live local Doppler radar system. This market leading technology affords us the opportunity to track and report severe weather in real-time by not relying on radar systems that located as far as 100 miles from the Erie market. Additionally we have a full staff of three certified meteorologists who have the knowledge to evaluate this information and keep the viewing public informed of weather conditions ranging from blizzards in winter to severe thunderstorms and tornadoes in the summer months. Obviously weather reporting of this nature is critical to preparing our viewers for inclement weather and in so doing, helping them to protect the families and homes.

In addition to our own weather warnings we provided our viewers severe weather warnings provided by the Nation Weather Service offices. JET-TV has invested in a "storm warn" system that displays instantaneously all severe weather warnings issued by the National Weather Service. In most cases we augment this information with live "cut-ins" from our weather center. JET-TV participates in the Amber Alert program which is implemented when children are reported missing. As a point of fact, the Amber Alert system was developed through a cooperative effort between the Pennsylvania State Police and the Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters.

JET-TV political programming has ranged form local sponsorship of senatorial debates, carriage of debates sponsored by the Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters, regular "state of the city" addresses and coverage of pressing political news within our newscasts. We have also produced and aired a series of "get out to vote" PSAs.

Sincerely,

Louis A. Gattozzi Vice President and General Manager

## STATION PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

(Nexstar programs WFXP, Erie, Pennsylvania under a grandfathered time brokerage agreement. Several of the below initiatives are supported by both stations.)

## **A. NON PROFIT AND CHARITY INITIATIVES**

- Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Annual 5K Walk
- Muscular Dystrophy Labor Day Telethon
- Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk at the Erie Zoo
- Epilepsy Foundation Run Around Erie
- Toys For Tots
- Erie Zoo 'Be A Zoo Reporter" Television Station
- Zoo Boo at the Erie Zoo
- United Way Annual Campaign
- Multiple Sclerosis Annual Walk

## **B.** CAUSES NOT TIED TO AN ORGANIZATION

- Volunteer Firefighter Recruitment Campaign
- Get Out to Vote Campaign
- Child Abuse Campaign
- Focus on Erie Medicine Weekly Half Hour Program
- Winter Weather/Safety Special
- News coverage of immunization clinics/senior health expos
- Wellness Tips on WFXP News at 10

## C. EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES

- 24 Challenge Math Skills Game
- Neighborhood Art House
- News Talent Reading at Schools on Dr. Seuss Day

- Meteorologist School Visits/Weather Presentations
- Television Station Tours
- Golden Apple Award Recognizing Teachers
- News coverage/Education reporter
- Good Kids News Reports

## D. WEBSITE

- Community Events Calendar—Free listings/Access
- Links to Station Sponsored Events
- Nomination Forms for Golden Apple and Good Kids
- News Stories



#### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECTS – KLST

Nexstar Broadcasting, Inc. programs KLST(TV), San Angelo, Texas under a time brokerage agreement pending is acquisition of the station in late 2004. Many of these programs started on KLST long before Nexstar entered into a purchase agreement for the station. Nexstar anticipates that KLST will continue with these many projects under its ownership.

THE FOLLOWING IS A SAMPLING OF KLST'S COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECTS:

- COMMUNITY CALENDAR MESSAGES THAT AIR IN THE 6PM AND10PM NEWSCASTS, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, THAT HIGHLIGHT UPCOMING WEEKEND CONCHO VALLEY EVENTS.
- KLST HOSTS THE MDA JERRY LEWIS TELETHON, LABOR DAY WEEKEND. KLST HAS AIRED THE PROGRAM FOR THE LAST 17 YEARS. DURING THE TELETHON FOR 2004, KLST VIEWERS CONTRIBUTED OVER \$200,000.
- KLST PARTICIPATES IN AN ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT TO HELP RAISE MONEY FOR THE YOUTH PROGRAMS FOR THE YMCA. KLST HAS BEEN PARTICIPATING IN THIS EVENT FOR THE PAST 15 YEARS.
- IN OCTOBER OF EACH YEAR KLST ASSISTS THE SAN ANGELO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WITH THEIR BUSINESS TRADE SHOW
- IN JUNE OF EACH YEAR KLST PRODUCES AND BROADCASTS THE CHILDRENS' MIRACLE NETWORK TELETHON.
- IN OCTOBER OF EACH YEAR, KLST ALONG WITH OTHER COMMUNITY SPONSORS, HOSTS A HALLOWEEN FALL FESTIVAL FOR SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN. SEGMENTS ARE INCLUDED LIVE ON THE EVENING NEWSCAST. THE STATION FURNISHES CANDY, GAMES, & PRIZES. RONALD MCDONALD ALSO ATTENDS FOR PHOTOS WITH THE CHILDREN.
- THERE ARE A NUMBER OF EVENTS WHICH KLST SPONSORS AND FURNISHES PROMOTIONAL ADVERTISING:
  - o SONRISAS THERAPEUTIC RIDING EVENT
  - o SAN ANGELO MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS SPECIAL EVENTS
  - CULTURAL AFFAIRS OF SAN ANGELO EVENTS
  - HISTORIC FORT CONCHO EVENTS
  - FUND RAISERS FOR THE CONCHO VALLEY FOOD BANK
  - CONCHO CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION & PARADE
  - "THE ADDRESS IS" HIGHLIGHTING AREAS AND EVENTS IN THE CONCHO VALLEY
  - TOP OF THE MORNING INTERVIEWS WITH LOCAL BUSINESS AND CIVIC EMPLOYEES WITH CALL INS
  - "MADE IN THE CONCHO VALLEY" HIGHLIGHTING BUSINESS THAT MANUFACTURE AND SELL ITEMS MADE IN THE CONCHO VALLEY
- ANNUAL KITE FLY IN APRIL OF EACH YEAR, ALONG WITH OTHER SPONSORS HOST A KITE FLY FOR CHILDREN IN THE AREA. LAST YEAR THERE WERE OVER 2000 KITES GIVEN AWAY THIS YEAR. THE EVENT IS HELD AT THE ANGELO STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC FIELD.
- KLST AND OTHER SPONSORS ASSIST IN THE "COATS FOR KIDS" BACK TO SCHOOL PROGRAM, AS WELL AS ASSISTING IN RAISING FUNDS FOR BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES.
- THE FRIENDSHIP TREE IS SPONSORED EACH YEAR FOR A LOCAL NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION. THE ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDE MEALS FOR THE ELDERLY, A NON-

- PROFIT PET ORGANIZATION, ETC. EACH YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS FROM VIEWERS AMOUNT TO AROUND \$2,000.
- THE SAN ANGELO STOCK SHOW AND RODEO IS A MAIN EVENT FOR KLST. THE ANNUAL PARADE IS A LIVE EVENT BROADCAST. KLST ALSO MAINTAINS A BOOTH AT THE RODEO.
- KLST AIRS A SEGMENT TITLED "NOSOTROS" WHICH HIGHLIGHTS EVENTS OR INDIVIDUALS IN THE HISPANIC CULTURE.
- KLST AIRS THE SHANNON HEALTH BEAT DAILY SEGMENT, WHICH PROMOTES HEALTH TIPS FOR THE CONCHO VALLEY.